## FCC 12-152

Before the
<b>Federal Communications Commission</b>
Washington, D.C. 20554

ET Docket No. 03-137
WT Docket No. 12-357

To: Office of the Secretary

Federal Communications Commission

Washington, DC 20554

Comment Filed by: Cynthia S. Larson

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## AFFIDAVIT OF CYNTHIA S LARSON

State of CALIFORNIA]

Alameda County ]

I, Cynthia S. Larson, attest that my statements are true to the best of my knowledge.

Comment round for ET Docket No. 03-137 and WT Docket No. 12-357.

- 1. My name is Cynthia S Larson. My address is P.O. Box 7393, Berkeley, CA 94707-7393
- 2. I am a self-employed writer with an AB degree in Physics from UC Berkeley and an MBA degree from San Francisco State University.
- 3. I have concerns that existing FCC RF safety guidelines and standards are inadequate to protect peoples' health, based on my direct experience with negative health effects from so-called "smart" meters including: dizziness, nosebleeds, blurred vision, ringing in my ears, migraine headaches and a generally foggy state of mind.
- 4. PG&E gas & electric smart meters were installed on my home in January 2010, as well as on homes to either side of mine, and all around my neighborhood.
- 5. One day in October 2011, I noticed I had become inexplicably and strangely unwell for weeks that dragged into months. I wondered why I awoke every morning feeling mentally dull (foggy), dizzy with a sense of vertigo, and with nosebleeds, blurred vision, ringing in my ears, and migraine headaches when nothing in my life or routine had changed. I had not experienced any of these symptoms on a daily basis before individually, let alone all together at once each and every day. I wondered why when I was sitting and reading a book, my heart would often skip a beat, and bizarre muscle tremors would inexplicably spasm across muscles on my face, arms, legs, and all over my body as if I'd just been given an invisible electric shock. When I spent ten days away from my home and away from smart meters in Maui in November 2011, I was amazed at how much better I felt. Gone were all the symptoms. When I returned home, all the aforementioned symptoms returned, and I wondered what was causing them. In January 2012, I caught strep throat and felt sicker than I'd ever been in my life. Unable to feel comfortable anywhere in the house—due to feeling such intense and inexplicable levels of pain in my head, eyes, ears, heart, and all over my body—I slept on the living room floor, and turned my full attention to the question of what, exactly, was making me feel so terribly sick.
- 6. In January 2012, I had an "Aha!" moment when I looked up my symptoms, I was amazed to find that many of them matched what used to be known as "microwave sickness." The first scientific report of microwave sickness appeared in 1974, with symptoms including: fatigue, headaches, palpitations, insomnia, skin symptoms, impotence and altered blood pressure. In cases of extreme exposure, symptoms also included: warming sensations, nausea, neuropathy (numbness, tingling, even paralysis in toes and fingers), stomach cramps, dyasthesia (a crushing sensation) and irritability. People in these studies had been accidentally exposed to microwave radiation, and no clear biological markers at that time were found, so these were not the kind of long-term studies that could establish safe exposure levels.

- 7. In January 2012 I called and wrote to PG&E, asking them to immediately remove and replace the smart meters that were making me so sick on my home with the analog meters I'd had for years, with no problems. The PG&E spokesman I reached on the phone read rather woodenly from some kind of prewritten script, repeating over and over again how "smart meters are harmless." I explained to him that I have a degree in physics from UC Berkeley, and am well aware that many kinds of radiation that we currently don't have health standards or studies for are far from harmless, and that I was certain I am experiencing extremely negative effects from smart meters installed on my home. Eventually, this so-called "help" line staffer informed me that there was nothing I could do—there was no way (yet) to opt out.
- 8. During the months of October 2011 through February 2012 my cognitive abilities were profoundly impacted and I became severely depressed due to migraines, heart palpitations, nosebleeds and lack of sleep. This adversely impacted my ability to earn a living since I am self-employed, and do not get sick time.
- 9. At the beginning of February 2012, I requested a smart meter opt-out from my local utility company, Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E), on the very first day they offered such a program to the public, and exactly one week later on February 8, 2012, the gas and electric smart meters on my home were replaced with analog meters. While I still hear ringing in my ears and have increased sensitivity to my computer that I never had before, I'm now sleeping well and no longer waking up with nosebleeds and migraine headaches... and the heart palpitations, muscle spasms and blurred vision are a thing of the past.
- 10. Since smart meters were installed on my house, I have become increasingly RF sensitive. Prolonged exposure to my Mac laptop computer when it's using WiFi makes whatever parts of my body are closest to it vibrate and buzz uncomfortably. On days when I travel on public transportation, such as the bus or Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), I come down with a cold for several days immediately afterward—and I never before in my life had such a reaction to being on public transportation back in the days before cell phones were in most people's pockets.

Respectfully submitted by

Cynthia S. Larson P.O. Box 7393 Berkeley, CA 94707-7393 February 2, 2013